THE JOURNAL

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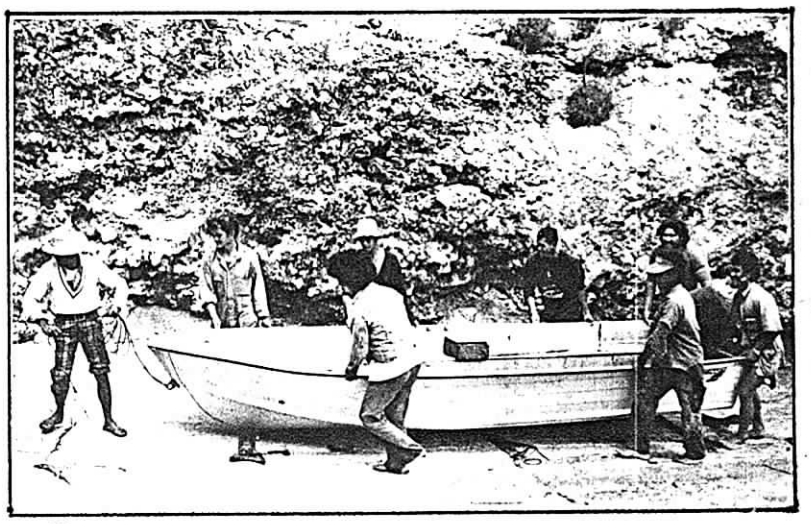
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COOK ISLANDS SUPERANNUATION SCHEME AND ADMINISTRATION

"SUPER" Talking

For the majority of Cook Islands workers, there is still no such thing as an honourable retirement. In the Outer Islands, like the Atiuan fishermen pictured (right), physical toil continues virtually until death.

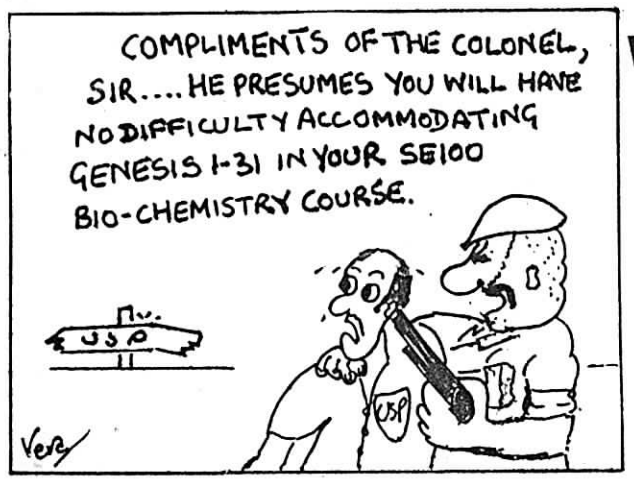
The proposed Government National Superannuation Scheme may be the first step towards ensuring that the People are properly protected in their old age. Or, as some critics suggest, it may be nothing more than "an attempt by the politicians to get their hands on the People's money.



This week, in a highly visible demonstration of Cook Islands democracy and the Parliamentary process at work, four of the most senior MP's arrive in Atiu as a Select Committee on the Superannuation Bill to hear the People's views. In this issue the JOURNAL attempts to fulfil the media's role in that democratic process by examining many aspects of the Superannuation Bill - a Bill which could mark a turning point in CI political maturity.

PARLIAMENT OF THE COOK ISLANDS

Tumatetenga-


COMPLIMENTS OF THE COLONEL, SIR.... HE PRESUMES YOU WILL HAVE NO DIFFICULTY ACCOMMODATING GENESIS 1-31 IN YOUR SE100 BIO-CHEMISTRY COURSE.
USP
USP
Vera

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC

With the Fiji dollar plumetting, massive staff shortages and the constant threat of violence, the USP, Fiji is in a parlous state. Our report on the latest meeting of Council leads us to the conclusion that as far as the CIs. is concerned, USP may be dead! P9.

BROWN MAN'S BURDEN

Racism in Atiu. Racism in the Cook Islands.

The man blowing up a Gale Force storm of controversy writes to the JOURNAL and sticks to his guns!

Hon. N. George

AERE mai!

The Journal and the people of Enua Manu welcome our Minister of Foreign Affairs & his Parliamentary Colleagues

cip

SHOWDOWN FOR MEMBERS ?

Your Money and Your Life

PAGE 5

Vera

Special Supplement

The Government Press is Yellow!

(SEE BACK PAGE)

THE JOURNAL

Independent

NOVEMBER 10-16 1987

Editorial

"E Geoff....!"
"Mmmmm....?"
"I've been thinking.."
"Steady, Norman..."
"No, seriously, Geoff.. ..what are you ? Forty odd..?"
"Well..still hanging in there, let's say!"
"Me, too. So, how old's Reagan..76?"
"There abouts".
"So that means we've about another 30 years between us at the top."
"Carry on, Norm."
"Well, seeing as there's no one much around to challenge us (barring "you know who" ahem..), why are we using up valuable fishing and golfing time opposing each other ? How about we split things ? I'll take the next 15 years. You get your handicap down to scratch and take over in...say..2002 ?"
"Good move, Norm. Tell you what, though. Let's try it this way...I'LL fill in the first 15 years or so and YOU take Nane on a cruise or something until 2002. How's that grab you?"
"I'll need to think about that one, Geoff. I could have some difficulty with Tepou!

"No, but Seriously.."

It would not be unkind to suggest that "Dr. Who ?" has been in his time capsule somewhere up near Pluto these last few months.

The PM has kept a profile so low that one is tempted to suggest that he must be checking out the French underground tests at source.

It would be kind to excuse him, of course.

His descents to earth have consisted of not bumping into Ms. Withers in Sydney (on which account Mrs. Wong presumably can now join the late lamented Mr/Ms Tia More and Mr. Pittman in the Upstairs PR graveyard)...and clapping a string of local boxers back to the loser's dressing room!

It must be admitted that the PM could well be excused for finding life in the outer reaches of the cosmos infinitely more attractive than what's on offer down here next to the swamp.

Nevertheless, PM's ARE expected to do a spot of Pee Emming from time to time and Dr. Robati, delightful gentleman and companion though he may be, has been providing something less than the ringing clarion calls to the citizens that they are wont to require by way of leadership on zillions of bucks per annum .

And that brings us to the two Parliamentary leaders we are honoured to have back in Atiu this week.

Given the habit of voters to like a change of PM's from time to time, both of them are likely to be our PM's on and off for the next quarter century!

They are young, controversial, full of ideas, proven adherents to the democratic process, confident and, thankfully, have the gift of inspiring some optimism about the future.

They both have a pack of hatchet-wielding ratbag followers who scare the daylights out of us poor chickens.

Apart from that, we are fortunate to have a better choice of potential PM's than anywhere else in the Region.

And..of course..oh.. there's Mr. Ingram!

CONTENTS

POLITICS Politics dominates the week as the Select Committee of Parliament move their operations to the Outer Islands. Opposition leader Geoffrey Henry, at the same time, steps into a confused and controversial Atiu CIP scene. World and local news, an analysis of the sad situation facing USP Fiji, our first ever Public Opinion Poll and a first look into CIs. racial attitudes complete this issue's political section....Pages 3-10.

ECONOMICS BUSINESS Very close to losing total patience with US President Reagan's failure to come to grips with the enormous US budget deficit, the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee issues a grim warning. On the home front, the Atiu Development Society talks to the JOURNAL about its current moves.

Also an enterprising company shows initiative with rubberwear! .....Pages 11-12

LIVING Making the most of the limited space available this week in view of the National paper shortage and the extensive coverage given our Political Section this issue, we cocentrate of making sure our regular features are covered.

For all the sports latest, see "vera".

VERA The top half (right) is in my Special Supplement, states the prize-winning satirist in a confidential statement of, as usual, no redeeming artistic merit whatsoever.

vol 1 Independent no

a national publication.

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P.O. ATIU COOK ISLANDS

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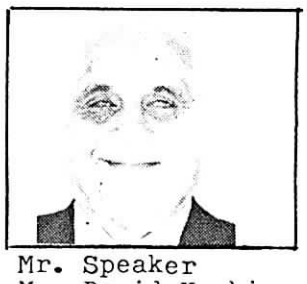
POLITICS



Mr. Speaker
Mr. David Hosking

Mad about the house

Parliament

Like many radio listeners both in Atiu and those we have spoken to from other islands, the JOURNAL was profoundly dismayed by the performance of Parliament, our supreme legislative body, during its last session.

In the light of events happening elsewhere in the Region, the JOURNAL believes that our Parliament is our most cherished democratic institution, outweighing even our traditional ruling structures. We see it as the final assurance that the people may be protected by democratic process. Consequently, we view the "performance" staged at times in the last session of Parliament as containing the ingredients to poison our fragile democracy.

With due temerity and respect, we call our members to order.

The last session of Parliament was by common concensus the worst exhibition of Parliamentary leadership the country has experienced in a long while.

Missing quorums ("it was YOUR fault; no it wasn't; yes, it was; wasn't; was; etc), Ministers dotted round the globe like missing-in-action statistics; Ministers not turning up for their vote item; Permanent Secretaries ordered into attendance; foul language; and the leader of the House waving his guillotine like some mad French Revolutionary with a backlog of aristocrats to dispose of before supper.

Maybe they all had hangovers after the Annual Cook Islands Constitution Week coup d'etat, or maybe it was just one of those sessions even well-meaning members are entitled to lapse into from time to time....but, whatever the reason, it was a sorry affair.

One of the major objections offered by opponents of the moves (long ago now) to bring TV and radio into Commonwealth Parliaments was that the opportunity given for public "showing off" would tempt members away from the hard work of profound debate.

Another argument was that it would not be a good idea for the public to be aware of just how great a percentage of trivia occupies the time of our prime legislative body.

Both criticisms seemed well justified in our most recent Parliamentary session.

The public we have consulted have grown weary of the posturing to constituencies, the tedious trivial lists of greetings, the tedious little local personality issues that could be just as easily and more effectively done Peacesat or Saturday Night "Party Time".

But the radio is ever present and available, NOT to educate and inform our people (mainly the mamas at home) but to entertain, to patronise, to trivialise.

It is a time (maybe the first in history) of great issues in the country and in the Region.

We judge the government to have a lamentable record on many of them.

Housing, health, education, agriculture, price control, the import-export gulf, the disastrous state of our EPS infrastructure...

SUCCESS

These are but some that come to mind on the domestic front.

The tame response to a Region collapsing around our ears; the failure to support multi-racial democracy in Fiji; the failure to slam the Australian press from here to Mars and back for making a mockery out of OUR head of government..

And so on...

Then, there are the many excellent successes of Government AND of opposition.

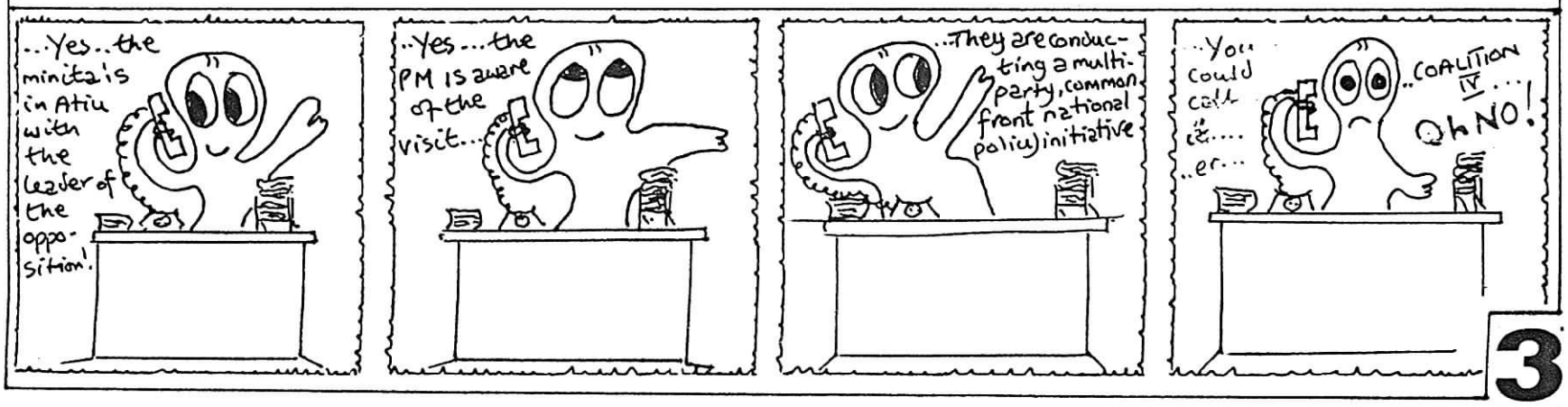
There is, above, the triumph of democracy in this country under the most testing conditions which have witnessed adherence to the constitution, sorely tried Government stability and an embattled but rigorous opposition.

It is this that has been the real CIs. Parliamentary success.

(continued on Page 4)

the quorums (AN EVERYDAY TALE OF POLITICAL FOLK)

tropo


...Yes...the minista's in Atiu with the leader of the opposition!
...Yes...the PM is aware of the visit...
...They are conducting a multi-party, common front national policy initiative
...You could call it.... ...er...
...COALITION IV... Oh NO!

POLITICS

Mad about the house

(continued from Page 3)

It is this which has given the solidity to the country which has attracted investment both local and foreign.

This is a major achievement in Regional terms. But one searches in vain for a Parliament ready to capitalise upon it by abandoning trivia and engaging in some inspiring debate about society's direction.

All these issues were around at the time of our last Parliamentary gathering.

But what did we get ?

Firstly, we were entertained to the spectacle of hardly anyone turning up and a priest delivering prayers to assist a body in deliberations it was unable to deliberate.

APPROPRIATION

We had debate about Tuiau Tongia; debate about Mr. Ingram's stockholdings; we debate about grants to Catholic schools when the state system is in the process of joining the manganese nodules on the ocean floor; debate about every non-issue in the book, including the JOURNAL...

...and, utterly unbelievably, we had no quorum for the Budget!!!

...and, at least one Ministerial Appropriation debated without either the Minister or the Permanent Secretary present.

Not that it would have done the opposition much good to have had a full-scale debate as so many matters which came up appeared to leave members unprepared and minus the necessary homework.

Out here, far from Nikao, we have our opinions. Week in, week out, we keep gathering them up from anyone willing to talk.

They add up to a sum of matters of public concern. We wait for Parliament to hear a cracking opposition tearing into government armed to the teeth with the facts of what we wish them to oppose. We wait for a strong government team, backed by their professionals whipping out the replies.

That way, we have confidence in the country we try to work for.

But we didn't get it.. not last time or the time before that. And morale has taken a proportionate tumble.

The moments still to be remembered are few but they remain, such is the strength of good powerful debate.

Mr. Ingram came up with spot-on itemised figures on teachers' salaries. The teachers were grateful to him. They waited for an answer. They are still waiting. And until a reply is heard, Mr. Ingram's statements are accepted. viz. the teachers are paid less per person this year than last year!

Mr. Taerea broadcast an eloquent plea for agriculture and for a shift in emphasis of our national promotion campaigns away from falseness back to the reality of our working people. It seems to have fallen on deaf ears.

Mr. George seemed ready to offer real debate on Foreign Affairs.. until our national foreign affairs debate settled down to a profound analysis of Iaveta Short's car and his secretary's salary.

MOOD

This is the stuff of late night sessions at the Tumunu..gossip, personality gripes and trivia.

Our people and our country are worth more.

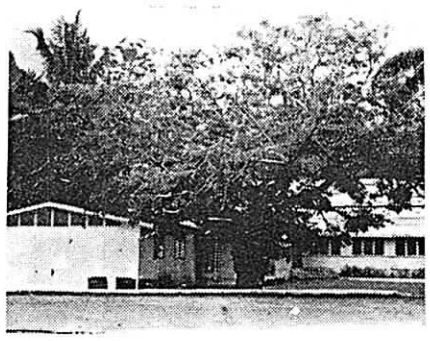
The radio gave the impression that Mr. Speaker Hosking felt likewise at times.

There was a "terseness" about the "gentlemen, please" at times which, for those who know Mr. Hosking, indicates a growing irritation.

If this is true, then it reflects the mood of the country.

This mood indicates to us that many, many people are saying, "Hey these blokes are getting plenty...let's have a spot of serious leadership from them."

This country is no longer in the bush league. The percapita income of Rarotonga is $4000 plus. There is action. Things are



happening. We want a bigger share of it given back to the people. And we want to know how government and the opposition propose to go about it other than play election head counts and caucus musical chairs.

Someone has to say it. So maybe it better be the JOURNAL, whose very existence is a tribute to the values of free expression and tolerance that government has promoted.

(For, let not Mr. Henry forget, whether it is promotion of Mr. George or not, this paper could not exist on Aitutaki...nor, so far, on Rarotonga. Only Atiu!)

Our Parliamentarians need to remind themselves that we, the public, respect Parliament.

It belongs to the people. And the people inwardly weep when it performs badly.

The country has no need now of a Parliament devoted to trivia. The private sector's initiatives, industry and investment have saved the Cook Islands from becoming Niue.

There are great issues around. They are debated long and hard by the private sector.

The JOURNAL calls upon Parliament to wrest the initiative back and to take on the challenge of the private sector in efficiency, enterprise and, yes, unfortunately, hard work and sacrifice.

If not, then the price will be far greater than any mere election change for individual members.

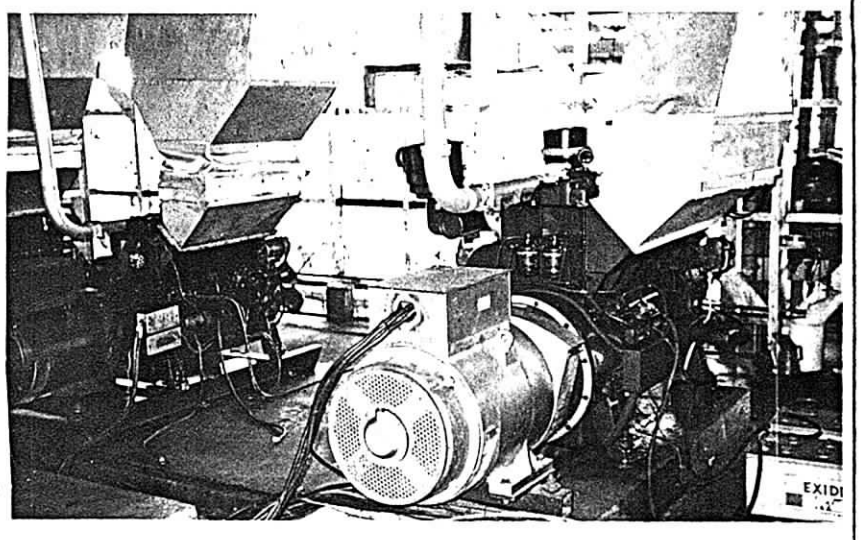
It will mean that Parliament is no longer really leading the country.

It will have become what it is already in serious danger of becoming, irrelevant.

Mr. Henry, Mr. George and Mr. Ingram led the last Parliament session with fire and in frustration. Let us hope their members this time match them.

For the problem with Parliament becoming irrelevant, is that the people then become irrelevant.

And then their country no longer belongs to them.



Atiu Power Station....

If our Parliamentarians are truly at a loss for people's issues to discuss, why not try what we judge to be PEOPLES' ISSUE NUMBER ONE!! Power! Not the political sort. The sort of energy supply needed to cope with current and developmental needs. NUMBER ONE COOK ISLANDS ISSUE! To maintain (not expand) Atiu's energy needs in the late eighties and nineties an estimated TWO MILLION has to be found. Raro is in a similar crisis situation. Old machinery, no spare parts, overloading.. Anyone got an answer other than "she'll be right, bro' "?

POLITICS

SELLING Super

Let There Be Talk!

This week's bi-party delegation to Atiu (Ministers George and David; Opposition leader Henry and Shadow Education Spokesman Puna) is officially in Atiu to hear from the public. They form a Special Select Committee of the House dealing with submissions relating to the Superannuation Bill due to be debated during the forthcoming Session of Parliament which begins on November 24.

The JOURNAL offers its readers the following analysis of the visit and the matters under consideration.

EMOTIONAL OPPOSITION ONLY?

PUBLIC OPINION

Revolutionaries all over the world have problems with the "little people". Especially the older "little people".

Such is likely to be the case when the bi-party Parliamentary Delegation come face to face with the "little people" over superannuation.

"Little people" are notoriously conservative. And rural "little people" are the toughest of the lot to shift from cherished traditional positions.

They never seem to know what's best for them!

The problem is that this attitude of theirs, whilst putting a big brake on their progress over the long run, is conditioned by just enough examples of catastrophe for them to feel justified saying, "Aha..told you.. see..never trust them fangled ideas!"

The new-fangled ideas might be anything from the wheel to a nuclear reactor. The reception is likely to be just the same:

- Instinctive dislike
- Reflex suspicion
- Rejection

It's the conservative way! It produces sterling conservative characters who never, but never, take a chance.

The Viet Cong had some considerable difficulty with them!!

Mind you, the VC had a heap more change on their mind than a new superannuation scheme!

But rural conservatives do not judge things by their magnitude of scope...just by the magnitude of their potential to disrupt a world which, by and large, was ambling along not too badly.

Hence, the George/Henry-Coalition/CIP joint mission to Atiu will be viewed as distinctly revolutionary.

Underlying the inevitable pleasure which will be felt towards an opportunity to welcome political leaders of all shades in an atmosphere devoid of party political tension, there are nevertheless likely to be several undercurrents of suspicion.

It is thus better to talk of unease rather than hostility, an emotional wariness as distinct from pure opposition to Parliament's plans to establish an exclusive Cook Islands superannuation scheme involving all employees and the transfer of existing contributions made overseas to the Cook Islands.

The unease and wariness are readily understandable.

Listening to a senior member of the George family, one is made quickly aware that Minister George needs no lessons and needs no reminders of the dangers of allowing chancy ventures to involve lifetime savings.

All Cook Islanders of the middle and older generations are aware of the many disastrous schemes that have foundered, apparently, so popular mythology runs "Cook Islanders always make a mess of things!"

Memories abound of many decades of such disasters from major ones such as the La Reta Affair to this year's minor kerfuffle involving Atiu's ELI.

"I just don't trust our politicians with my money," said an older Atiuan, nearing retirement when we talked with him.

He seemed to sum up a lot of local opinion in adding, "With NZ you know nothing can go wrong. So why change?".

Others offer even vaguer grounds for suspicion.

"If this visit means government and opposition agree on things, you can be certain it suits one group above all else - the politicians!" was a mama's contribution to the around the island talk last week.

Others had more precise worries.

Said a Public Servant:

"We demanded a copy in Maori. Where is it ?"

He was referring to the copy of the Act sent to Atiu some months ago and rejected by an informal meeting of Department heads on the grounds of it needing to be put into Maori.

(NB We understand from Mr. Tupuna Rakanui of the Parliament Office that such a copy is available. ED.)

PUBLIC MEETING

The effort by Parliamentarians to come to an Outer Island en masse is widely respected. However, no small amount of criticism is directed at the traditional format of the public meeting as a satisfactory means of resolving complex matters.

The JOURNAL joins such critics.

Atiu, like elsewhere in the Cook Islands, is undergoing enormous change.

This involves very often the analysis and presentation of extremely complex economic, social and political considerations.

The traditional public meeting, we believe, is quite inadequate as a democratic structure in the modern world.

It does not serve the people.

(ctd..on Page 6)

our araura visitors

GEOFFREY ARAMA HENRY M.P. (Takuvaine)

b. 16.11.40
Aitutaki
m. 6 children; former teacher; in national politics since 1965. Longest serving national politician apart from Dr. Pupuke Robati; entered Parliament (L.A.) in 1965 as opposition independent; re-elected as CIP member 1972 (Aitutaki); after 1978 represented CIP as leader of opposition; elected for Takuvaine 1983; PRIME MINISTER 1983; DEPUTY PM in Coalition I 1984/5; Leader of Opposition since then.

Other Offices: Minister of Education 72/3 & 84/5; Lands & Survey 72/3; Financial Services 73-5; Finance 75-8; MOW 84/5.

International Golf Representative 1979
"A" Grade Rugby Coach - Avatiu.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WEEK, e GEOFFREY!!!

SELLING Super

(ctd...from Page 5)

It DOES serve those who wish to manipulate a decision to their own advantage.

It DOES re-inforce the current power structures.

And, it terrorises opposition into silence; it often leaves bewilderment, confusion, resentment and recrimination in its wake.

We have had several such examples on Atiu this year whereby decent citizens in a small community are set against each other...not through personal animosity but because of the out-of-date contradictions in a structure never designed for the discussion of complex economic matters.

It is thus with no little relief and a great deal of congratulation that we learn from Mr. Rakanui that an attempt is being made to discover a suitable structure within which to debate the Superannuation Bill at a people's level.

UNREPRESENTED

This is the purpose of the democratic Parliamentary process known as the "Select Committee".

Its arrival does NOT necessarily, as has been suggested by some of our leaders (and by Mr. Rakanui, it is reported), mean that the Parliamentary opposition has given up its democratic duty to oppose. It could be that there are large areas of agreement but the public opposed to the bill do not need to fear that they are unrepresented.

There is no question of, we believe, the Superannuation Bill being a free "conscience" vote. The opposition are obliged to oppose and the Select Committee may hear evidence which persuades them to oppose strongly.

Nor is the Select Committee a referendum. Our system does not allow for that. The committee is not giving up its Parliamentary role and turning to the public for help!

The most usual use of the Select Committee procedure is, like in the case of the Superannuation Bill, when there is legislation proposed which is highly contentious and for which no special mandate was given government at the time of the last election.

Thus a Select Committee of both sides of the House makes itself available to the Public with a view to hearing submissions, collecting information and reporting back to the House.

AWARENESS

In summary, the public are NOT being invited to replace Parliament. They are being invited to take part in the constitutional Parliamentary process.

What our Parliament is doing most properly is adhering to one of the cherished precepts of Westminster-style democracy...i.e. that DEMOCRACY MUST NOT ONLY TAKE PLACE BUT MUST BE SEEN TO TAKE PLACE...just as justice is required to be seen to be done.

It is re-inforcing perhaps the most vital distinguishing feature of Western Democracy - (its ultimate rationale) freedom of information.

As such, it should be a most important lesson in democracy for Atiu, as our island tries to grow in maturity and political awareness.

The Members are to be sincerely congratulated on the move to bring the Select Committee TO the people.

It would not happen this way on many Outer Islands in the Region.

Our people, like many communities in the Region, are moving slowly towards political awareness. It is a terrifyingly slow process for those educated, brought up or born in more sophisticated communities. But the process is at least taking place.

The biggest service our leaders can give us in the long run is to hand on the gift of democracy to the people.

Information has for too long meant power. On Atiu, there are those who calculatedly retain information for themselves in order to have power over others.

Like ELI and the Vanilla Problems this year, the confusion, anguish and later recriminations which are the usual sequal to public meetings in Atiu, can be traced to a failure by local leaders to inform the people properly...as a means of retaining power for themselves.

There is nothing special about Atiu in having this problem.

It is good to see our National Parliamentary leaders taking active steps to ensure all the people have equal rights to information in the very important area of their retirement hopes.

ESSENTIAL

That said, it is vital that this trust be subject to the test of the full democratic procedures of the Cook Islands. In these, we the public have an essential role

In these, we the media, have an essential role - to inform, educate and comment.

The people, too, have an essential role.

If they do not play that role, they have no cause to complain if Parliament does not come up to their expectations.

We know that there is strong opposition to the Bill. That must be heard. We know also that the voice of the little man with no awareness of what it is all about has a greater right to be heard.

The opposition to the Bill is not merely emotional. It is real and valuable.

QUALITY

All these voices are to be heard in the due process of democracy.

So far, on Atiu, we feel that Parliament has played its role. In our own small way, we feel that the media has played its part.

The stage is set for the public to enter the game of democracy!

If they don't, we will all suffer. For the quality of the Bill which emerges ready for the QR's signature will match identically the quality of the democratic process which has led to its formulation.

This is the beginning of a look into the best means of guaranteeing the people's rights to information.

It is hoped that it is the start of many similar exercises in democratic adult education.

Given our limitations in media coverage, educational levels,

(ctd...on Page 7)

our araura visitors

NGERETEINA PUNA

b. 10.8.38

m. with 7 children. Entered Parliament in 1978 as Member for Aitutaki; Oppositon spokesman on Health & Education 1978-83; Minister of Health 1978; Minister of Education 1983; Opposition (CIP) Spokesman on Education; Leader of House 1984/5.

Professionally a teacher; Former Secretary of Education; Leading CIs. Educationist in Parliament; Devout SDA Leader; Youth Organiser and Worker.

Devoted Aitutakian!

POLITICS

SELLING Super

(from Page 6)

language barriers, communication and general resources, Parliament is to be congratulated for its efforts to bring this issue to the people and for its willingness to be available to the people of the Outer Islands.

It is a move that should, we feel, cancel out any ingrained unease, suspicion and wariness on the part of the people.

Mr. George and Mr. Henry appear to be working at their democratic structures.

Hon. Norman George -supporter of the bill ?

We are lucky.

Being so, the Parliamentarians merit sound and proper address to the clauses of the Bill rather than emotional response.

The emotional response is understandable. But, we have come a long way down the path to democratic, structural maturity. The Superannuation Bill is not La Reta. NZ is not an Olympus where gods live. It is an experienced country which has developed the political, economic and social structures to handle complexity.

We believe we have done likewise and have the institutional controls and the manpower to take on full responsibility for one of the most important aspects of private life - personal savings.

Yes...it IS a matter of trust. So are many things.

There is a time for that trust to be given if we believe we have a country to which we can commit our lives.

Presenting

"Apart from that, lads, did anyone find out what she thought about Superannuation....?"

(THE BULLETIN - adapted)

Private Questions THE BILL Public Attention

ONE

The crucial question for the people is not whether the Bill is a good Bill or not. We can safely presume that the lawyers have done their work and that the influence of Parliamentary debate will ensure an adequate check, especially by legal minds of the calibre of Mr. Ingram.

Basically, the soundest approach to the Superannuation Bill is to look at who it affects in broad social terms.

The Bill seeks to place all Cook Islanders under one locally administered Superannuation scheme. So, is this a good idea?

Four categories of Cook Islander emerge, each of which may hold differing views:

1. Workers who have a basic lifetime's committment to the Cook Islands in terms of residence. They may have an existing scheme but, by and large, they will benefit in the long run from the present scheme proposed. One or two groups may privately feel they can get a better deal in other ways but they may have to submit to the overall will of permanent stabilised Cook Islands workers.

2. Various groups of career itinerants, especially those exrecising their rights as dual citizens with NZ. There's is a tough case. They have rights to live and work in NZ and in CIs. They will have difficulty with the Bill. No one can be absolutely sure whether they will at some stage be in this category or not.

3. Those who are already fixed up with a NZ scheme they are happy with and see no reason why they should be required to change. They are the toughest category to deal with democratically. They may end up, if the Bill goes through, a very unhappy group.

4. Those who have nothing at all now - a large Outer Islands group. They will be well served by the Bill if it goes through. BUT...what about the totally unemployed ? Does the Bill offer any hope to them'?

There is a sub-group in the form of the employers for whom the enactment of the Bill will, to cut a long story short, will amount to a 5% wage order which they will pass on to the consumer, thus producing inflation.

TWO

and New Zealand?

SEE PAGE 8

POLITICS

OPINION

JOURNAL POLL %

Polls and Public Opinion surveys are very rare in Polynesian politics.

That the situation may be changing was indicated last year in Tahiti.

The Papeete daily, LES NOUVELLES ran the first ever Opinion Poll in French Polynesia.

LES NOUVELLES took on the daunting task of forecasting the 1986 FP elections.

The results surprised all observers as, using and adaptation of US "straw poll" methods, LES NOUVELLES predicted a victory for the ruling Tahoeraa Huiratira Party and came within two seats (out of 41) of predicting the actual outcome.

The JOURNAL is studying various methods of polling in an effort to bring readers up to date with public opinion and trends.

This week we tackled the question of National Issues.

With Parliament due to meet on November 24, we looked into public attitudes to the issues of the day and aimed at producing a "top ten" list in order of preference. A voting sample of 20 was used which reflected national voting structures.

The exercise was an extremely limited first effort but a list of national priority issues emerged which will be of interest at a time when our political leaders prepare for another session of Parliament.

WHAT ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEMS THAT SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN

PARLIAMENT ?

1. Rising Prices, especially food.
2. NZ Passport Costs
3. Agriculture Export Markets.
4. Energy (Power and Fuel supplies)
5. Development Bank Loans
6. Education (lack of teachers)
7. Immigration (too many foreigners)
8. Fiji (How are we affected)
9. French Loans (What are we using them for and what are the details)
10. Health (lack of doctors)

What is clearly apparent, of course, is that basic "bread and butter" issues come a long way ahead of everything, especially rising (soaring ?) prices.

NB: The NZ Passport issue is obviously a passing concern but does again illustrate the public's general response that it is basic cash in the hand each fortnight that is the main concern and worry.

This would again seem to indicate that the so-called "economic boom" has not greatly altered the life of the people... ..merely put a couple of extra noughts on the basic calculations involved in living from fortnight to fortnight.

Social services, extent and quality, and Foreign Affairs take a distant back seat.

Atiu is definitely NOT yuppie country!

PEOPLE

BROWN MAN'S BURDEN

On Page 13 of this issue, Mr. Teiotu Tangatapoto, replies to articles in the JOURNAL reporting upon his alleged remarks relating to the white community generally, delivered publically on Gospel Day.

The JOURNAL commends Mr. Teiotu's decision to defend himself publically in the pages of the JOURNAL. We invite readers to weigh carefully the issue involved. We shall be considering it from a National point of view next week.

NZ

(ctd...from Page 7)

Observers of the brief Labour Party term of office in NZ in the 1970's may recognise the present CIs Superannuation Bill. It shows many similarities to the ill-starred NZ scheme of that time. There appear to be few differences.

It should therefore be instructive to look at the arguments used by the then opposition NZ National Party in opposing the NZ Bill. It is also worth while examining the NZ public's reaction and, of course, the final political result of what was a highly disputed issue.

The National Party's main concern was the huge size of the proposed Superannuation fund.

In 8 years, its invesment portfolio was estimated to be potentially greater than GDP. It was calculated that in 40 years, the fund would have been six or seven times the Gross Domestic Product!

Such a huge fund, it was felt, was undesirable as it enabled the few people administering it to hold enormous power over all aspects of NZ life.

By choosing to withdraw funds from certain areas and re-allocate them to others, these few people could affect the pattern of development of the Nation.

Such huge sums could be used to manipulate the money market in many ways, thus drawing more money towards the fund to the detriment of small investors on the principle that "more money makes even more money".

National saw the workings of Parliamentary

Government becoming insignificant besides those of the Directors of the Superannuation Fund.

(NB: Similar fears have been expressed in this country relating to the powers of the Offshore Banking operations in so far as they make Government subservient to them. It is not unreasonable to expect the CIs. Superannuation Fund to grow considerably and thus place very great power in the hands of a small non-elected group over whom government does not appear to have final control) ED.

The NZ general public gave adequate evidence that they strongly disliked the compulsory nature of contributions which further reduced their take home pay and the return to employers. Most (unlike CIs ers), had adequate schemes of their own.

Some wanted to speculate with their surplus money.

It appeared that, at that time, a large majority resented Labour Party Government "interference".

It became an election issue. Observers of NZ politics estimated it to have been an important issue.

The election result ?

A landslide defeat of the Labour Party.

SOUTH PACIFIC

Tumatetenga!

DEATH or something near!

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC

The University of the South Pacific has meant different things to each of the eleven constituent nation members.

To the Cook Islands it has meant major manpower developments which no other institution has been able to offer.

Above all, in Health and Education, the USP has been crucial in national manpower planning and objectives.

The latest news from Fiji indicates that all this will alter dramatically from 1988 onwards.

The effect of the September 24 second coup upon Cook Islands Higher Education programmes will be considerable.

Whether or not PNG eventually takes up the mantle of USP is of limited interest at present.

It is, in fact, probably of no interest to the Rarotongan student or parent.

It will be most surprising if we do not see a mass defection to NZ in terms of Rarotongan students entering higher education and training.

To those who have an alternative, USP Fiji is dead as a University.

Frustration, despair, even anger, comes through to readers following Vice Chancellor Geoffrey Caston's last month's report to the USP Council.

As reported in the USP BULLETIN, Caston detailed a situation which, in sum, is an intolerable environment for University work.

It also, between, the lines, suggests most strongly to CIs. educationists that it would be wrong indeed to continue sending students to USP Fiji.

Mr Caston reported the natural distaste University staff and personnel are bound to experience when forced to live "in an undemocratic society."

He spoke, in a flat statistical survey more depressing in its objectivity than any emotional outburst, of the loss of 15 staff and many skilled Fijian staff.

23 staff members have left since the May 14 first coup. The Vice Chancellor noted that he expects more resignations in weeks to come.

Replacements, he said, will be hard to recruit in view of the unpleasant conditions and the 30% devaluation of the Fiji dollar.

"All this," he noted "has made employment at USP increasingly unattractive."

The quality of the academic work to be expected in many USP faculties is indicated that, to quote the Vice Chancellor, the "percentage of unfilled senior posts has soared to 16%!"

The Vice Chancellor also itemised the several incidents involving the Military and USP personnel which had resulted on occasions in harrassment, shots and detention.

In a summarising appeal, however, for continued Regional support, Mr. Caston stated, "In many ways we offer a model of International learning which the world cannot afford to abandon."

Mr. Caston may be right. But it is unlikely that many CIs. parents or students can well afford to do without USP, Fiji.

The demand will almost certainly be for greater levels of NZ opportunity.

In a statement for the military regime, Secretary for Education, Mr. Hari Ram claimed to wish to see a removal of "uncertainties which may have arisen".

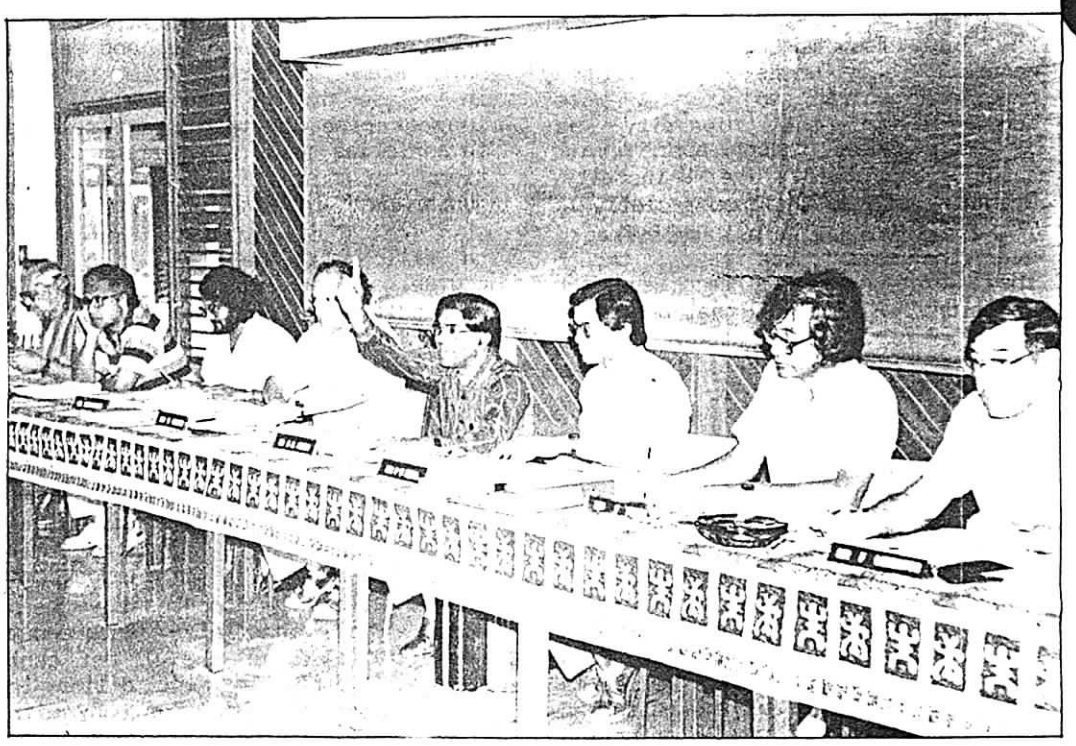
Ram noted the "issues the country has been attempting to resolve in its search for a new identity as a nation."

(NB There could be some ready to claim that Fiji already has found its identity as a nation..along with all other military ruled "banana" republics! ED)

He called for resilience on the part of the the University and gave assurances of non-interference in University life.

Ram ended with, ironically as a representative of a regime which seized power by the gun, a lecture on "freedom".

"Freedom properly used," he said, "promotes its own survival and growth; freedom abused deservedly [illegible] precipitates its own end."



Grim faces at the executive table during the latest USP Council meeting held in late October. Council met to hear Vice Chancellor Caston (4th from left) deliver his report upon current conditions under Fiji's military regime. Representatives of the regime replied. Second from the left and third from the left are perhaps the Region's most famous literary "giants" Pro Vice Chanellors Albert Wendt (W. Samoa and New Zealand) and Subramani (Fiji).

THE NEWS
international

Gorbachev
on the trail back

Mikhail Gorbachov

USSR leader Mikhail Gorbachov reviewed a huge parade of soldiers in Red Square Moscow over the weekend in celebration of the 70th anniversary of the Russian Revolution. He was joined by leaders from Cuba and the 3rd World. The theme of his almost 3hr. address was "Reconstruction" and a return to the early revolutionary principles of a mixed economy. The theme of Reconstruction was also applied to defence and rapprochement with the West in defence matters.

Africa

Following a 7-man medical report on the health and competence of Tunisia's President for Life Habib Bourguiba, the 84 year old leader was forcibly replaced on Friday by PM ex-General Ben Ali. Bourguiba had ruled Tunisia since independence in 1957 and was regarded as a staunch pro-West ally. The new government has been widely recognised in all parts of the world and is expected to pursue moderate policies.

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation predict renewed famine in the impoverished North and Eastern Regions of Ethiopea by the end of the year.

There has been a total crop failure in the Regions owing to rainfall being considerably below normal.

Food stocks are very low and transportation is inadequate to cope with another emergency.

President Mengistu has announced plans for the urgent re-settlement of 3 million people from the Regions.

BOMBING TERROR

A massive bomb blast at Inniskillen in N. Ireland killed 11 civilians on Saturday, reports the BBC. The bomb is believed to have been placed by the Irish Republican Army.

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— Photographs used in this Newspaper are Processed by
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Rarotonga Pharmacy Ltd
PHOTOGRAPHIC DIVISION

Atiu Agent AML
KIS PHOTO HOUR PROCESSING
KIS 1-Hour Photo Processing

national

Just reaching the JOURNAL newsdesk is a report that Atiuan CIP members will be approaching party leader Geoffrey Henry this during his Select Committee visit. The Reason ? To seek assistance in getting Party Affairs sorted out at a local level in the wake of former CIP representative, Mariri Parataingа accepting a post in the Coalition Government after his 1985 election. We are led to understand that Atiu CIP President Mataki Kaiaruna would prefer to await Mr. Parataingа's presence before action.

Atiu Motel
Sponsors of the
4th ATIU TENNIS championship

The invitation Tennis Tournament has unavoidably been postponed to

12 DECEMBER 1987

to fit in with the availability of Air Rarotonga aircraft. This means that entry into the Championship can be reopened and will now close on 16 November. First round matches start on 18 November. New entrants contact -

Kapao Kapao, Raui Tokorangi, AML store, or John Akava.

First round:-

MENS

Tuaine Rakei vs Junior Raui

WOMENS

Patia Kapao vs Helen Glassie

MIXED DOUBLES

Helen Glassie & Thailand Ngaroi vs Matakeu Tomokino & Junior Raui

- ENTER NOW - ENTER NOW -

ECONOMICS & BUSINESS

MANAGEMENT

ADS

Time needed

"MISUNDERSTOOD"

You could not really describe it as an impact. It was more like an old champion boxer, retired and forgotten by the public announcing a comeback. And giving a gentle cuff to the sparring partners as a reminder that he was back in business.

The occasion ? The realisation last week by several bodies that (thanks to poor organisation with drums by someone, it appears) Atiu is totally without petrol supplies.

To salvage something out of the crisis, there arrived on Thursday a "shipment" of petrol air-freighted from Rarotonga!

The supplier ? None other than the Atiu Development Society, now operating out of the former ELI premises in Areora.

Those who got their emergency petrol were delighted at the initiative...if not at the $12 per gallon air freight price!

Following the Liquidation of the long-established Atiu Co-Operative ELI in September, a mood of hostility and recrimination set in on Atiu. Those associated with ELI appeared to go "underground", whilst others in Atiu business set about applying individual skills to the wreckage of Atiu business. Emotions have cooled a little since then and the JOURNAL considered it was time for the public to review again the state of our Island's business world. Consequently we approached members of the Committee of ATIU DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY, widely regarded as the direct descendant of ELI.

we want to learn

What was more significant, though, was the efficient way in which the exercise was completed and the care taken by a still nervous-sounding committee to make sure everything was done to the letter of correct procedure.

Secretary Nga Manu confirmed to the JOURNAL that careful management was to be a hallmark of all ADS operations.

"We have learnt much from the past," he said, "and, of course, we have a lot still to learn."

"We want to go slowly," added Mr. Manu, "we want to learn"

Mr. Manu agreed that there had been many mistakes made in the past due, he said, to inexperience.

He added that he and his committee had not been happy with media coverage of the ELI collapse nor of the JOURNAL's coverage of events since then.

"But we accept the need for good press relations and acknowledge that it is in the interests of both the JOURNAL and an ambitious Society such as ADS to have a happy working relationship."

Mr. Manu said that ADS' overall plans had not yet been finalised and were some way off completion.

"The committee can assure you and the public, however, that whenever we have news and information it will be offered to the press and the editor of the JOURNAL will be the first to have the news."

"In fact," he added, "to show you we have everyone's best interests at heart, we will invite you to attend our meetings from time to time."

Open to all

AML

AFTER WORK
WEEK-ENDS
TONIGHT

WELCOME

development

Infrastructure...the constant barrier to Atiuan progress and development. Progress is a long haul on Atiu as everywhere in the Developing World, and for every successful project there is one which breaks down. ABOVE: the current state of the Atiu crusher.

INVESTMENT

The Dollar _ _ _ _ _ _the valley of debt

BELOW: End of day at the Chicago Exchange in the Good Old Days 3 years ago!

The world's financial crisis continues almost unabated inspite of temporary stabilisation around the stock markets of the world. The cause of the continuing crisis is firmly considered by economists to be the failure by USA Presidential Administration to tackle seriously the USA budget deficit, estimated currently to be in the region of $150billion.

Some Billion-Dollar Questions

The Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee Mr. Lloyd Benson (Democrat) said over the weekend that Congressional talks with the White House over solving the budget deficit crisis must be speeded up, according to Washington press reports.

Talks have been going on for the last two weeks between groups of Congressional Republicans and Democrats and the White House.

So far, President Reagan has accepted the need for cuts in the deficit to a level, however, which does not satisfy the Democrats.

Latest moves last week were a Republican package aimed at reducing the deficit by 30 billion next year and a further 45½ billion in 1989.

Still not satisfied, Mr. Benson stated that unless an urgent and satisfactory solution is reached, the USA will be saying to the world that "it lacks the courage and will to set its economic house in order.

The $75 billion package offered by the Republicans aims to cover part of the deficit through increased revenue, firstly by the sale of government assets in a privatisation programme and secondly through cuts in defence spending of $5 billion and aid of $800 million.

"They thought he was playing space games on the company computer, but he transferred a majority shareholding into his parents' names!"

THE JOURNAL COMMENTS:

Tracing back the origins of the financial crisis over the period of the second Reagan administration is both informative and alarming.

Even the apparently very serious problems associated with the use of computers in the options and futures trading areas pale into relative insignificance in the face of the US Budget Deficit.

But, like many of the mounting problems which will be the legacy of 8 years of Ronald Reagan, the impetus given the budget deficit crisis was political.

It has been the curious mixture of jingoism, patriotic arrogance, and sheer ignorance which has fuelled this crisis as it appears to have done every other massively dangerous crisis during Reagan's administration.

A facile appeal to "national confidence" and the ill-advised PR slogans implying that there was "nothing" good old-fashioned US values couldn't solve have substituted for policy in a wide range of areas under President Reagan.

An article in NEWSWEEK as October 1984 is typical.

Headlined "The Unstoppable Dollar", the article speaks of "a world-wide sense of confidence in the US economy."

The writer quotes the US Federal Reserve Board maintaining that the US simply "can't go on indefinitely selling its securities....there's no question that the dollar is riding for a fall."

Yet, in spite of the World Business editor of Newsweek, continuing to reflect accurate forecasts of disaster, the rest of the influential publication's editorial policy (and that of TIME and the major dailies) continued polishing the Reagan emotional surface in all areas of the Administration. That surface's glitter only began to fade with Iranscam.

The signs of the impending US and world financial crisis have been apparent for a long time. But they have been consistently written off as alarmist by the US press.

If there is one belated lesson for the small American in the whole Financial Mess, it is that somehow he must try to dig below the PR surface of the extreme right and discover what is actually the reality.

That reality appears to be incompetence, wish-fulfilment and extremely dangerous ignorance.

Solution

(CROSSWORD on PAGE 14)

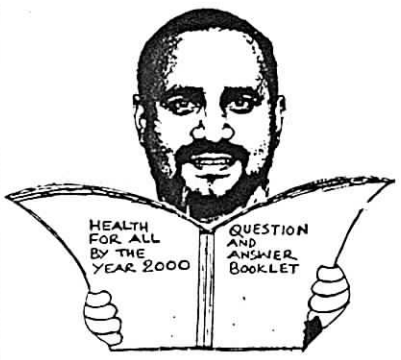
ACROSS: 1 Sit on the fence; 7 Gym-slip; 9 Remit; 10 Rio; 11 Recorder; 14 Manicure set; 17 Domestic; 19 Duo; 21 Floor; 22 Eminent; 23 Shirley Bassey.

DOWN: 1 Sugary; 2 Tombola; 3 Nile; 4 Furrowed; 5 Nomad; 6 Enter; 8 Prejudice; 12 Eat; 13 Minstrel; 14 Moo; 15 Endless; 16 Costly; 17 Doffs; 18 Maori; 20 Visa.

LIVING

DEAR DOCTOR ...

Medicine



Fungal skin infections are common in Atiu. What is a ring worm ? Is there any way to prevent these ? Is there any cure once the Disease is contracted ?

DEAR READER:

Ring worm, or Tinea, (not the one with whitish patches) is called ringworm because on most occasions it forms the shape of a ring on our bodies.

It was a common disease in Atiu last year but is under control now.

Ring worm is a superficial fungal infection which attacks only the outermost layer (dead layer) of the skin, including hair and nails. There are three common varieties of this fungus.

Some may cause very mild inflammation or none at all (redness, itching, swelling etc.)

The disease can occur on the body (T. corporis), on the feet (T. pedis, on the nails (T. Unguium), on the scalp (T. Capitis), upper thighs and perineum (T. cruris) and on the bearded area (T. barbae).

The lesion is usually round, reddish coloured, with a raised border, expanding peripherally and clearing in the centre. In case of athlete's foot, it usually begins in the space between the 3rd and 4th toe and later expands towards the surface.

These lesions may be macerated, have vesicles and bullae and are commoner during the summer, especially when humidity increases.

Toe nails may become thick and distorted.

The fingernails may become thick, distorted and lustreless. One will be able to see debris accumulated under the free edge.

Eventually, the nails may be completely and permanently destroyed.

Scalp lesions may be small, scaly, greyish patches with a loss of hair in places.

The whole or major portions of the scalp may be involved. The effect may extend beyond the scalp to the forehead and other areas.

It flares up in humid summers. The condition is made worse by obesity and tight clothing.

So, dear Readers, the key to prevention remains practically the same as that for scabies, lice, intestinal worms etc.

This is to say, the utmost maintenance of personal hygiene, proper washing and hot ironing of clothing, (especially inside out) avoidance of sharing clothes, linen, combs, hairbrushes etc. And, it means taking your doctor's advice when in doubt.

Footwear (clean socks and shoes) protects the feet from getting "athlete's foot" condition and infection.

However, once infected, closed footwear may aggravate the condition until cured.

After that, light permeable footwear is recommended. The feet should be kept clean and dry by dusting with powders etc.

If you are suffering from the above conditions, consult your doctor.

There are some excellent medicines which can be taken orally or applied locally which can dramatically alter the condition.

Remember, it may take from 6 weeks to 6 months (or even more) to get a complete cure even when the patient may feel he/she is well after 15 days of treatment.

So, please follow your doctor's advice sincerely and seriously rather than blaming the disease, your luck or, later on,...the doctor!

NEWS NOTEBOOK

Te nuti o ao toku au

NEWS AT ELEVEN

Mon: Our fire went for 24 hours.
Tue: The girl in the video was a bit confused she did not know that dogs could climb trees.
Wed: I thought my Mum was coming
Thurs: I went to pick kaika and me and Tu had the bening fighting
Fri: I was sick at school
Sat: I went to help my mother at the shop

Letters

Dear Editor,

To explain and answer an article written in the JOURNAL under the heading "News Notebook", I would like to say the following by way of reply.

My main concern refers to "Remarks of a Defamatory Nature having been made".

Mr. Editor, I would like to confirm that I did not mention any name or names. I only mentioned PAPAA (European). To prove my answer, I would like to ask the writer of the article to contact Mr. Manske who recorded the "do" for Gospel Day on video.

LEGAL ACTION:

I am not afraid of legal action. I will not be ashamed to stand before a court and be sent to jail or crucified for my Maori Atiuans living here on their peaceful homeland.

Thank you, editor.

Teiotu T. Poto
(Chairman, Island Council)

THIS LETTER WILL APPEAR IN MAORI IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF "TIANARA"

Editor: After seeing the video, the JOURNAL notes the following having been said:(more than once)..."don't you be duped. Don't be led astray by these whites. Pay no attention to them."

The JOURNAL recognises that the CICC Assistant Minister was not picking out one white person.

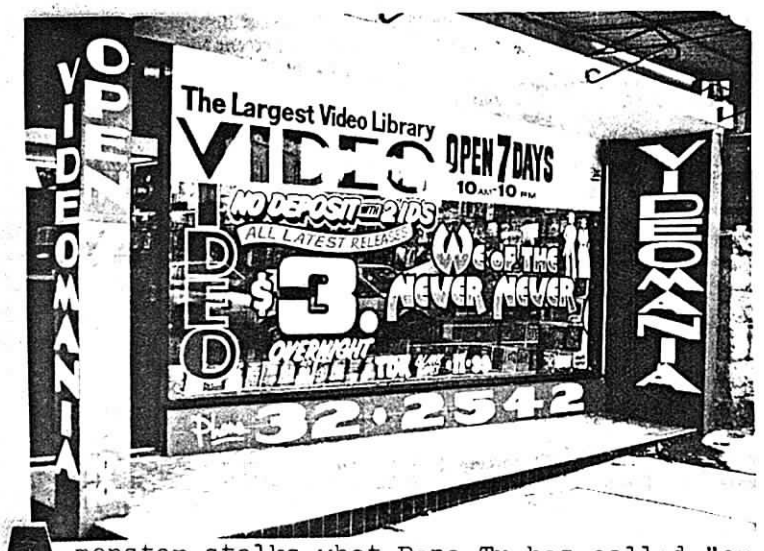
He therefore was referring to all white people on Atiu.

The JOURNAL thanks Mr. Teiotu for his honest and frank reply in the spirit of free expression and right of reply. ED.

Living

the monster

*For the benefit of our overseas readers, no offence is meant to our beloved sisters and brothers at CINEWS. They have a paper crisis & have turned "yellow" using a colour normally associated with ad pages. Sympathies, Alex!



A monster stalks what Papa Tu has called "our peaceful homeland". It destroys homes, wrecks family life, ruins manners and normal social courtesies. It's video! And Atiu has gone quite "nuts" over video, which now rivals drinking at the top of the Atiuan social pastimes

Two distinguished social workers last week expressed dismay at the grip the "box" has taken on family life - from 8.00 a.m. onwards..Daily!

NEXT WEEK: We Feature.."87 Murders an hour" - The impact of video.

LOOK

by Subhash Vatsyayann

Enjoy this

-Pi-

(continued from last week....)

Let us look at the food value of dried beans as compared to Chicken (in brackets): Energy 4 (3); Protein 4 (3); fat 1 (3); carbohydrates 3 (o); calcium 1 (3); iron 4 (1); vit. A 1 (o); Thiamine/ vit. B1 3(1); Riboflavin/Vit B2 1 (1); Niacin 3(3).

HOW TO COOK & EAT:

1. The green beans can be eaten raw.
2. Fry one cup of green beans in a teaspoon of any cooking oil and take as a snack adding salt.
3. Cook for a few minutes in coconut cream.
4. Brown some garlic and onion (and a piece of finger if handy) in 2-3 tsp of cooking oil. Add 1 cup of green beans, one potato (cut & boiled) and ½ tsp of curry powder (or its available individual ingredients as discussed in our article on Curry Powder two weeks ago). Cook for 5 minutes.

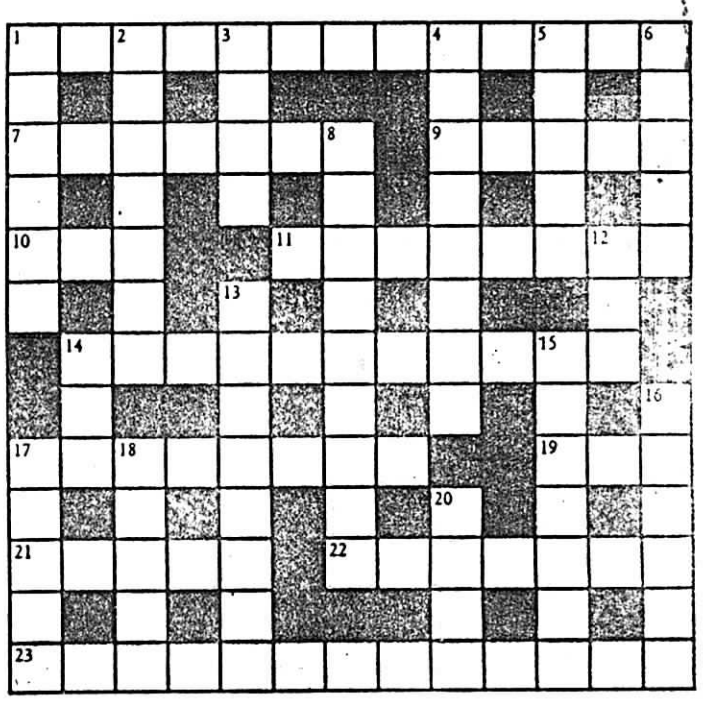
Add one chopped tomato and add salt and pepper to taste. Cook and mix for ½ a minute approximately.

Serve with rice, bread, yam or taro.

5. Sprout dry beans (soak overnight and keep in a wet tea towel for one day.) These can be prepared in any of the above ways.

6. Dry beans. Soak overnight and cook as in 4 (above).

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Remain neutral (3, 2, 3, 5)
7 Schoolgirl's tunic (3-4)
9 Send money by post (5)
10 Brazilian city (3)
11 Wind instrument (8)
14 Complete implements for nail care (8, 3)
17 Of the home (8)
19 Pair of artistes (3)
21 Knock to the ground (5)
22 Distinguished (7)
23 Female singer with a big voice (7, 6)

DOWN

1 Excessively sweet (6)
2 Lottery-resembling bingo (7)
3 African river (4)
4 Rutted like a ploughed field (8)
5 A wanderer (5)
6 Go in (5)
8 Preconceived opinion, bias (9)
12 Chew and swallow (3)
13 Wandering musician (8)
14 Cattle low (3)
15 Infinite (7)
16 Pricey (6)
17 Takes off hat (5)
18 Aborigine from New Zealand (5)
20 Travel permit (4)

solution page 12.

THE JOURNAL & THE (Last) WORD

SCENE: Back in the Oval Room. Just before lunch.

Enter Aide:

Aide: Mr. President, sir. Catastrophe strikes again.
RR: Gee whizz!
Aide: The Senate Foreign Relations Committee have voted against Star Wars.
RR: Them dirty rats!
Aide: The Senate Finance Committee are cutting off your funds.
RR: Golly, Moses!
Aide: The Shi'ites have taken 27 hostages.
RR: Yellowbellies!
Aide: The dollar's dropped to par with the Tibetan "twak".
RR: Wow!
Aide: The Russians have landed a man on Pluto.
RR: Goldarnnit!
Aide: Your latest Supreme Court Nomination was an escaped Nazi war criminal.
RR: Well, I'll be danged.
RR: Gee willikins!
Aide: The end of the world is nigh.
RR: You know, that's just what I was telling Nancy at breakfast.